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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q80537

Takashi ABE

Allowed: January 21, 2005

Appln. No.: 10/809,846

Group Art Unit: 2839

Confirmation No.: 8165

Examiner: Michael C ZARROLI

Filed: March 26, 2004

For: COMPUTER SYSTEM, SWITCH CONNECTOR, AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING OPERATIONS OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H11-272373, published October 8, 1999 (with English abstract).
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H06-161621, published June 10, 1994 (with English Abstract).
3. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2002-132402, published May 10, 2002 (with English abstract).  
03/24/2005 100001 00000040 10000046
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H06-295771, published October 21, 1994 (with English abstract).  
01 FC:1806 180.00 OP

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5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H01-296577, published November 29, 1989 (with English abstract).
6. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2001-184297, published July 6, 2001 (with English abstract).

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated December 28, 2004 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree for relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 22, 2005

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/809,846
				Confirmation Number	8165
				Filing Date	March 26, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Takashi ABE
				Attorney Unit	2839
				Examiner Name	Michael C ZARROLI
				Attorney Docket Number	Q80537
Sheet	1	of	1		

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	H11-272373	A	10-08-1999	Hitachi Ltd	
		JP	H06-161621	A	06-10-1994	Hitachi Ltd	
		JP	2002-132402	A	05-10-2002	Mitsubishi Electric Corp	
		JP	H06-295771	A	10-21-1994	Ricoh Co Ltd	
		JP	H01-296577	A	11-29-1989	Fujitsu Ltd	
		JP	2001-184297	A	07-06-2001	Toshiba Corp	

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.



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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed  
concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a  
counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information  
Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard L. Bernstein  
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